

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Law Enforcement Concerns Cited

Annual Motorcycle Beach Ride Canceled at San Buenaventura State Beach

SANTA BARBARA -- The annual motorcycle beach ride scheduled for July 14 at San Buenaventura State Beach has been cancelled after local law enforcement and State Parks officials expressed concerns about law enforcement and safety issues.

The beach ride was the scene of some trouble last year, including thefts of motorcycles, and in light of increasing violence between some motorcycle groups – including an incident in Laughlin, Nevada earlier this year – law enforcement officials recommended that the event at San Buenaventura be canceled this year.

The officials cited a fatal casino brawl between rival motorcycle groups at the annual Laughlin River Run bike rally. Three people were killed and 12 people were hospitalized after the fight, which involved between 70 and 100 participants. Laughlin is a Colorado River resort town 80 miles south of Las Vegas, Nev.

Both the Ventura County Sheriff's Department and Ventura Police Department requested that State Parks not allow the ride at San Buenaventura.

The beach ride at San Buenaventura was sponsored annually by the non-profit Exceptional Children's Foundation as a fund raising event, attracting thousands of participants to San Buenaventura's two miles of beach and sand dunes. It is publicized as the 'largest summer charity ride west of the Rockies.'

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